

I am writing in concern about the proposed new alien pilot training rules. I have previously been involved in training non-resident and resident aliens for private pilot, commercial, and instrument ratings. None of these students were interested in flying "big iron," rather they were simply interested in sharing the joy of flying smaller aircraft; that same joy that I gain from teaching people to fly general aviation aircraft. Now, in the supposed name of national security, the Congress and the TSA is working to make that even harder by requiring foreign student pilots to submit to an onerous application procedure. General aviation has never presented a threat to public safety that exceeds that of automobiles or trucks. Unfortunately, almost anyone, American or otherwise, can rent a Ryder truck and fill it with explosives and much more easily cause massive damage than that which could be caused by a small aircraft, which have severe weight limits. However, because the general public does not well understand general aviation, and therefore unnecessarily fears it, the Congress and TSA appear to be attempting to institute rules that place the burden on innocent flight instructors and alien student pilots. I would hope that the TSA seriously reconsider this ruling. Thank you.